strengthening the Khadi and Village Industries sector with a view to make the sector viable and vibrant in the new era of globalisation. Based on the recommendations made by the Committee, a package for KVI Sector was announced by the Government on 14.05.2001. The package consists of Rebate Policy for five years, option of Rebate and Market Development Assistance (MDA), Insurance cover to Khadi artisans, emphasis on improvement of Khadi products, creation of packaging and design facilities, measures to promote marketing, brand building, cluster development etc.

Bhabha Atomic Research Centre

1906. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of scientists working in Bhabha Atomic Research Centre at Mumbai;

(b) the annual expenditure of this institute;

(c) the objective of this organization; and

(d) the contribution of these scientists to improve quality of life of average Indian?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) 4126 Scientists are working in Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC), Bombay (Mumbai).

(b) The average annual expenditure (Plan and Non-Plan) of BARC during the last three years is Rs. 542.87 crore.

(c) In addition to the R&D work towards national security, BARC is responsible to develop nuclear science and technology needed for India's electricity requirements and also for application of radioisotopes and radiation technology for health, agriculture and food preservation, hydrology and industry.

(d) In short, the primary objective of BARC research is to work for the energy security as well as security of food and health care of the people, through radioisotope and radiation technology.